

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1615

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## AN ACT

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Securing Aircraft  
3 Cockpits Against Lasers Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST AIMING A LASER POINTER**  
5 **AT AN AIRCRAFT.**

6 (a) OFFENSE.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United States  
7 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

8 **“§ 39A. Aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft**

9 “(a) Whoever knowingly aims the beam of a laser  
10 pointer at an aircraft in the special aircraft jurisdiction  
11 of the United States, or at the flight path of such an air-  
12 craft, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not  
13 more than 5 years, or both.

14 “(b) As used in this section, the term ‘laser pointer’  
15 means any device designed or used to amplify electro-  
16 magnetic radiation by stimulated emission that emits a  
17 beam designed to be used by the operator as a pointer  
18 or highlighter to indicate, mark, or identify a specific posi-  
19 tion, place, item, or object.

20 “(c) This section does not prohibit aiming a beam  
21 of a laser pointer at an aircraft, or the flight path of such  
22 an aircraft, by—

23 “(1) an authorized individual in the conduct of  
24 research and development or flight test operations  
25 conducted by an aircraft manufacturer, the Federal  
26 Aviation Administration, or any other person author-

1        ized by the Federal Aviation Administration to con-  
2        duct such research and development or flight test  
3        operations;

4            “(2) members or elements of the Department of  
5        Defense or Department of Homeland Security acting  
6        in an official capacity for the purpose of research,  
7        development, operations, testing or training; or

8            “(3) by an individual using a laser emergency  
9        signaling device to send an emergency distress sig-  
10       nal.

11        “(d) The Attorney General, in consultation with the  
12       Secretary of Transportation, may provide by regulation,  
13       after public notice and comment, such additional excep-  
14       tions to this section, as may be necessary and appropriate.  
15       The Attorney General shall provide written notification of  
16       any proposed regulations under this section to the Com-  
17       mittees on the Judiciary of the House and Senate, the  
18       Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the  
19       House, and the Committee on Commerce, Science and  
20       Transportation in the Senate not less than 90 days before  
21       such regulations become final.”.

22        (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
23       at the beginning of chapter 2 of title 18, United States

- 1 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
- 2 item:

“39A. Aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft.”.

Passed the House of Representatives May 22, 2007.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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